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23 August 1962

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

*Berlin: Moscow's abolition of the Office of the Soviet Commandant in Berlin is intended to remove the most important remaining symbol of four-power responsibility for all of the city. The timing of the 22 August communiqué of the Soviet Ministry of Defense probably was dictated by renewed Western insistence that the USSR acknowledge responsibility for East Berlin by participating in a meeting of the four commandants to deal with means of easing tensions within the city. Like most Soviet and East German moves with respect to Berlin, this action is one more step toward obtaining in advance one of the practical results which would be provided by a peace treaty.

Although Moscow's decision to abolish the Commandant's Office probably does not foreshadow an early breakoff of bilateral talks with the US, it does suggest that Khrushchev has decided there is little chance of obtaining further Western concessions at this time and that he now is mainly concerned with strengthening the USSR's position for signing a separate peace treaty.

The Soviet move does not have any immediate practical effect on Allied military access to West Berlin. Responsibility for "control over the movement of personnel and supplies" of the Western garrisons has been transferred "temporarily" to the commander in chief of the Soviet forces in Germany. Moscow apparently does not intend to withdraw from the Berlin Air Safety Center (BASC) and thus abandon

its control over military air access in the near future. The failure of the communiqué to refer specifically to BASC's future suggests, however, that some move to subject civilian air access to East German control may be in the offing.

Moscow also may be prepared to permit the Ulbricht regime to incorporate East Berlin into the territory of East Germany and to impose new entrance requirements designed to gain Allied recognition of its sovereignty over East Berlin or to accept exclusion.

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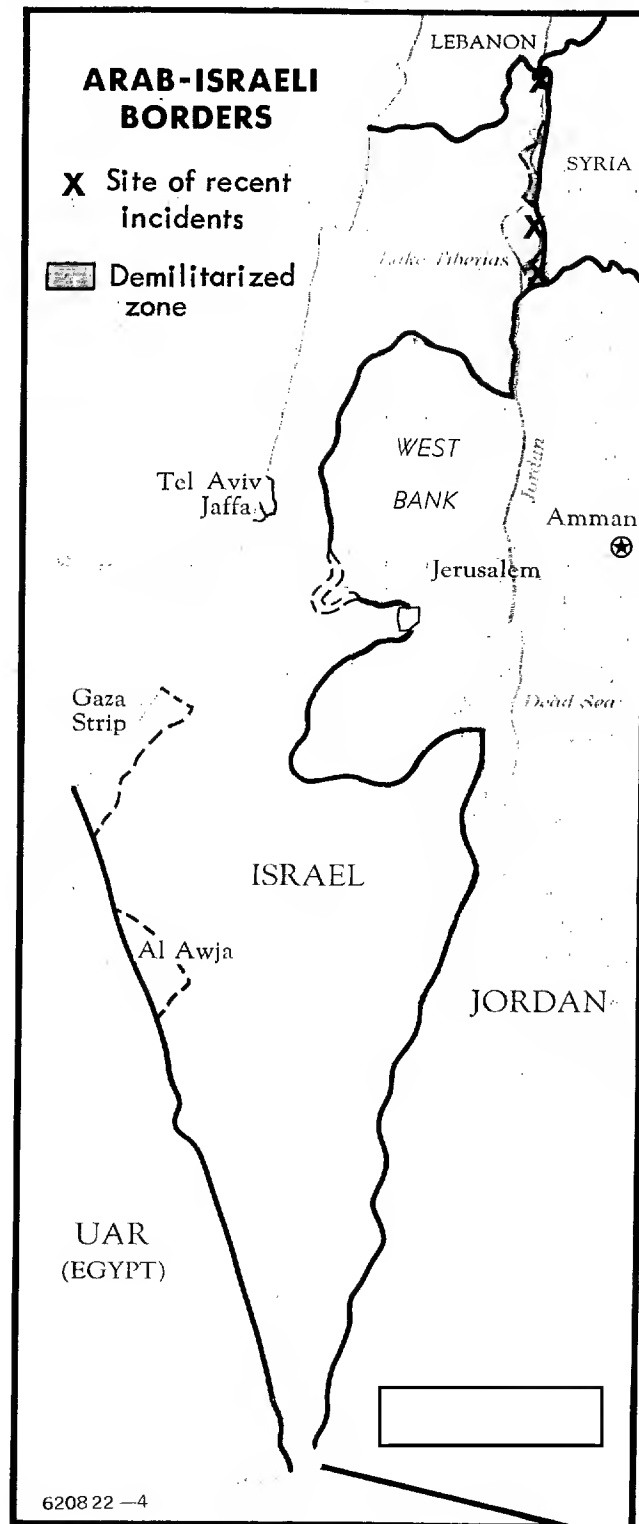
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India: Prince Sihanouk has called on the

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Israel-Syria: Syrian troops have repeatedly fired on Israelis at three points along the border since 20 August. A Syrian military spokesman said on 21 August that the firing up to that time had been in reaction to Israeli violations of the demilitarized zone and of a "defensive" area on Lake Tiberias. In one instance the Syrians reportedly directed mortar and recoilless rifle fire at an Israeli patrol boat.

The UN Truce Supervision Organization is concerned over the fact that this was the first use since mid-March of weapons heavier than machine guns against Israeli boats. The incidents in March led to an Israeli reprisal raid and UN Security Council consideration of the border situation. [REDACTED]

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

The United States Intelligence Board approved the following national intelligence estimate on 22 August 1962:

NIE 51-62: "Prospects for Burma" [REDACTED]

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(Advance conclusions are normally distributed within 24 hours of approval, and the printed text within five days.)

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Executive Offices of the White House

Special Counsel to the President

Military Representative of the President

The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Director, Office of Emergency Planning

The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary of Defense

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Department of Justice

The Attorney General

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

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